THE CLAIMS

1. A form roller for offset lithographic printing presses comprising:

a stationary shaft defining an axis;

a roller mounted on the shaft for rotation around the shaft and for oscillation back and forth along the length of the shaft;

the roller having an exterior surface defined by an axis extending parallel to an offset from the axis defined by the shaft whereby the rotation of the roller around the shaft is eccentric;

the exterior surface of the roller comprising an impregnated elastomeric material.

2. The form roller according to claim 1 is further characterized by a cylinder mounted on the shaft for rotation about the axis thereof and an eccentric cover mounted on the cylinder and formed from an elastomeric material.

3. The form roller according to claim 1 further including at least one cam mounted on the shaft for controlling the oscillation of the cylinder lengthwise along the shaft.

4. The form roller according to claim 3 further including means for rotating the cam relative to the shaft and thereby randomly varying the oscillation of the roller along the shaft.

5. The form roller according to claim 1 wherein the exterior surface of the form roller comprises a fabric impregnated elastomeric material.

6. The form roller according to claim 1 wherein the exterior surface of the roller comprises a fiber impregnated elastomeric material.

7. The form roller according to claim 1 wherein the roller comprises a cylinder supported on the shaft for rotation about the axis thereof and an eccentric cover mounted on the roller and further including at least one cam mounted on the shaft for controlling the oscillation of the cylinder along the shaft.